

REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-4, 6-13, 15, and 16 are pending in the application. All pending claims are allowed.

Applicant(s) thank(s) the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s), and for stating that the filed drawings are accepted.

The Office action rejects claim(s) 14 under 35 USC §101. Applicant(s) may respectfully disagree with the reason(s) for rejection, but cancel(s) the rejected claim(s) without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter in order to facilitate issuance of a patent for the allowed claim(s). Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to continue prosecution of the subject matter of the canceled claim(s) in a divisional or other continuing application, pending resolution of the issue of whether signal claims are patentable under the statute, which is currently before the Federal Circuit (e.g., CAFC Appeal Number 2003-0853 (patent application 09/211,928)).

All outstanding issues having been resolved, applicant(s) respectfully request(s) that the Examiner find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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